

Prior to this season, the most postseason success the Indians had seen was an IHSA Regional title. They not only won the program's first state championship, but also collected their first-ever IHSA Sectional and Super-Sectional crowns.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this impressive accomplishment by the Lemont High School Baseball Team and to congratulate them on their state championship.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASBURY PARK-WALL ELKS LODGE NO. 128

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Asbury Park-Wall Elks Lodge No. 128 on its 125th anniversary. As its officers and members gather to celebrate this milestone, I would like to join with them in honoring its history as one of the oldest Elks lodges in the United States.

The Asbury Park-Wall Elks Lodge was originated as the Asbury Park Lodge of Elks number 128 on June 28, 1889. It is one of the five first lodges in New Jersey, among Newark, Patterson, Hoboken and Trenton. The lodge was housed in the Mikado Building on Cookman Avenue in Asbury Park and consisted of 42 members in its first year.

In its early years, the Asbury Park Lodge was led by several Exalted Rulers. Its first was John K. Parker, followed by John F. Hawkins, Samuel A. Patterson, and Harry J.

Rockefeller. In 1893, Exalted Ruler William K. Devereux, who was also District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for New Jersey at the time, presided over the lodge when it surrendered its charter due to decreasing membership among the limited population.

Fourteen years later, interest in the lodge rebounded and it was reorganized on January 11, 1907 with a new dispensation. At the time, it was numbered 1047, but was later given the original number 128 again. Today, the Asbury Park-Wall Lodge No. 128 is one of 35 lodges in New Jersey and is part of the Southern District. Exalted Ruler Mary Ann Smith currently leads a membership of over 200.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Asbury Park-Wall Elks Lodge on its 125th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STRATTON POLLITZER

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Stratton Pollitzer. Stratton is the co-founder and Deputy Director of Equality Florida. A Phi Beta Kappa Political Science graduate of Emory University, Stratton has spearheaded numerous community-based campaigns that respond to political attacks and build support for anti-discrimination ordinances, safe schools policies, and domestic partnership laws at the local and state level. He also oversees all Equality Florida fundraising programs and has

raised over \$15 million for LGBT organizations and political campaigns.

Since founding Equality Florida in 1997, Stratton and Executive Director, Nadine Smith, have helped it grow into one of the largest LGBT equality organizations in the country. Today, Equality Florida has over 185,000 members, over a thousand volunteers, and a staff of 22. Equality Florida fights at the state level to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The organization has helped overturn the state ban on gay and lesbian adoption, implemented a statewide anti-bullying law that has led to specific bans on LGBT bullying, and passed over 130 local policies addressing LGBT discrimination and providing domestic partnership benefits.

As a key spokesperson on LGBT issues, Stratton is a regular contributor to major television, print, and radio outlets throughout the state. He has had opinion columns published in the Miami Herald, Broward Sun-Sentinel, Saint Petersburg Times, Tampa Tribune, Daytona Beach News Journal, and Orlando Sentinel.

From 2004–2006, Stratton served on the board of directors and as Vice-Chair of the Equality Federation, a national network of statewide LGBT advocacy groups. In 2011, he was presented with the Harvey Milk Foundation's Honors Medal. Stratton lives in Miami with his husband of 20 years, Christopher Boykin and is the father of 17 year old twins, Ben and Sarah.

I am happy to honor Stratton Pollitzer, during LGBT Pride Month, for his activism on behalf of the LGBT community in Central Florida and nationwide.